

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 SS-15 EB-07 SP-02 INR-07 NSC-05 AID-05

CIAE-00 TRSE-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ISO-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2655

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 11966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, US, EG, EC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY AID TO EGYPT

REF: STATE 194787

1. QUESTION OF EC AID TO EGYPT WAS REFERRED BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS TO ME EXPERTS GROUP, WHICH CONSIDERED THIS QUESTION AMONG OTHERS AT AUGUST 12 SESSION IN ROME. OTHER ME AGENDA ITEMS REPORTED BY SEPTEL.

2. FOLLOWING TEXT (INFORMALLY TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH ORIGINAL) WAS SENT BY GOI FOR INFORMATION TO ITS EMBASSIES IN OTHER EC CAPITALS.

BEGIN TEXT: FINANCIAL AID TO EGYPT. THE EXPERTS EXCHANGED VIEWS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF FINANCIAL AID TO EGYPT AND ON THE POLITICAL ADVISABILITY OF SUCH ACTION. FROM THIS POINT OF VIEW, IT WAS AGREED THAT AID TO EGYPT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD ENCOURAGE CAIRO TO HOLD TO AN ATTITUDE OF MODERATION, FACILITATING PEACE AND A POLICY OF COOPERATION WITH THE WEST AND EUROPE IN PARTICULAR.

THE MEANS BY WHICH SUCH AID COULD BE GRANTED SHOULD BE MOST CAREFULLY CONSIDERED BY THE INTERESTED PARTNERS AMONG THE NINE, GIVEN THAT

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THE ESSENTIAL PURPOSE OF SUCH ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE

TO MAINTAIN THE STABILITY OF EGYPT AND ITS ECONOMIC BETTERMENT.
WHATEVER MODALITIES MIGHT BE ENVISAGED BY EACH OF
THE INTERESTED PARTNERS SHOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF CONSULTATION
AMONG THE NINE. END TEXT.

3. SUBJECT WAS GIVEN BY POLITICAL DIRECTORS TO ME EXPERTS
FOR CONSIDERATION. EXPERTS, HOWEVER, FELT QUALIFIED ONLY TO SPEAK
ON POLITICAL ADVISABILITY OF AID IN MOST GENERAL TERMS.

THEIR TEXT WILL LIKELY BE ENDORSED BY POLITICAL
DIRECTORS AT ROME MEETING BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 3,
AND REFERRED TO FOREIGN MINISTERS AT VENICE SEPTEMBER 13.

4. MFA BRIEFER WHO SUPPLIED FOREGOING INFORMATION
EMPHASIZED TWO SPECTS OF AID QUESTION. FIRST, ABOVE TEXT IS
DESIGNED TO STEER SUCH AID AS MAY BE FOREHCOMING
TO ECONOMIC AND NOT MILITARY PURPOSES. SECOND, DECISIONS
ARE LEFT TO INDIVIDUAL STATES SO THAT ANY AID WOULD BE QTE
BILATERAL BUT WITH A EUROPEAN TINGE UNQTE. DESPITE PROCEDURAL
ASPECTS, THE REAL PROBLEM REMAINS UNCHANGED: WHO IS
GOING TO DIG INTO HIS POCKET, AND WHEN. VOLPE

NOTE BY OC/T: DISTRIBUTION COORDINATED WITH S/S-O, MR. MACK.

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Message Attributes

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